

## DENIES GERMANS FORM NEW ARMY

Noske Declares Reports Spread Here and in Europe False.

## ALLIES HAVE POWERS

Treaty Gives Them Supervision, War Minister Points Out; Says Force Needed.

By FRANK MASON, International News Service Staff Correspondent.

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—Reports circulated in Europe and America that Germany is creating a secret army were denied today by General Noske, Minister of defense, who said:

"Germany has taken no steps toward the development of a hidden army, nor does she intend to do so," declared Herr Noske, who is generally known as the "strong man" of the government. Germany's military cards are on the table for anyone interested to see.

"I cannot understand how anyone can take seriously the reports of secret military activities in Germany. There are no major allied military commissions spread throughout Germany that any proposed military steps by our country against the allies would be impossible."

### Allies Have Powers.

According to the terms of the peace treaty, these various commissions will be vested with wide powers of supervision and control after the treaty is ratified and effective.

Powers of supervision and control after the treaty is ratified and effective are as follows: I have no intention to organize a secret army for tomorrow it would be known by those against whom it is organized.

The strength and location of our troops are no secret.

The treaty provides that our ultimate mercenary army should be reduced to 160,000 men by April 1, but in view of the fact that the entente recognizes that order must be maintained throughout Germany and also the fact that our eastern frontier must be protected against the Russian Bolsheviks, we may possibly be permitted to have a larger force. These measures, which have been taken to keep order in Germany, are responsible for the fact that our army has not yet been reduced to peace basis."

Asked whether Germany had a sufficient staff of officers left to direct an offensive, in view of the secret clause disbanding the German general staff, Herr Noske replied:

### League Still Theory.

"The league of nations promises a reduction of armaments but unfortunately remains a theory as yet. The victorious countries have been strengthened. Indeed our neighbor on the east—Poland—is organizing an army surpassing ours in strength and power. Why should we speak of war plans? The members of the general staff are not needed. The most of the general staff officers, in fact, have been demobilized."

Staff officers, who because of their peace training and their experience in war, are fitted for the work, are remaining to devote their entire attention to the difficulty of reconstructing a German volunteer army."

## MAY FIGHT IN LONDON

Promoter Cochran Claims to Have Carpenter's Signature and Hopes to Sign up Dempsey.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—London loomed up strongly today as the probable scene of the proposed world's championship battle between Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier.

Charles B. Cochran, English promoter and theatrical magnate, is here to talk business with Dempsey, having arrived Christmas day on the Mauritanian. He reports he has Carpenter's signature to an agreement to fight him at any time or any place during the next year and a half.

Cochran wants to stage the bout in London. He points out that British soil, first of all, is neutral and that he can stage the big event there without interference. He denied reports that Carpenter had signed with him to fight in London only, saying that he could hold the bout elsewhere.

Cochran has already offered \$2000 out for the match and he declined today to say whether or not he would be willing to go higher to secure Dempsey's services. The sum offered by the Britisher is not far off, however, for Carpenter's share as well.

I am willing to offer a substantial sum for the match," Carpenter told London, "but it is up to you to make the decision," he said. "Now consider how big the arena may be in capacity will be taxed if the contest is staged there."

Cochran expects to remain here a few days after which he plans to go west to talk with Dempsey and his manager, Jack Kearns.

## SOVIETS SEEK TO SET SAIL

Two Scheduled to Sail Aboard But Find Now Anxious to Go Back.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 26.—Some of the members of a secretariat turned up before Judge Basch in the United States district court today. When two men who expected to be here to sign a pact with the Allies to end the war were delayed by the Japanese, their action to obtain their release was taken as a protest against the American government, because they would be sent to Asia instead of Europe. They were George Meesing and Koenig, members who were nominated to be agents for the secretariat. The departure was delayed by the Japanese because they wanted to go back to Europe and when they were delayed by the Japanese, their action to obtain their release was taken as a protest against the American government.



## ALBANIANS WANT U.S. IN CONTROL

## THINK MILLERAND VOTE TO REMAIN WILL BE PREMIER ON STEEL STRIKE

Threatened by Three Nations Land Sees American Need.

By ROBERT S. DOMAN, International News Service.

TRINITY, Alabama, Dec. 24.—Threatened with being ousted by three nations, Albania is appealing to the United States to accept a mandate to save her from Italy, Greece and the John Slays.

Scarcely a week passes that some Albanian society does not adopt resolutions calling upon Uncle Sam to step in and safeguard her interests. The Albanians say they want nothing but to be left alone. Yet while they are partitioning the troops are occupying as much of the country as they can, the Serbs and Montenegrins of the newly formed Jugoslav nation are edges in from the north and east and Greece and the John Slays.

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